

**SPECIFIC WAIVER COVER SHEET**  
**CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SEPTEMBER 2003 AGENDA**  
**Item No. W-17**

<p><b>TITLE:</b> Request by <b>Saddleback Valley Unified School District</b> to waive <i>Education Code</i> (EC) Section 56366.1(a) certification for an uncertified nonpublic school, <b>Sunhawk Academy</b> located in <b>Saint George, Utah</b> to provide services to one special education student, <b>Lauren B.</b></p> <p><b>CDSIS:</b> 21-7-2003</p>	<p><u>  <b>X</b>  </u> <b>ACTION</b> <u>      </u> <b>INFORMATION</b> <u>      </u> <b>PUBLIC HEARING</b> <u>      </u> <b>CONSENT</b></p>
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department recommends:  Approval     Denial

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**Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action:**

The State Board of Education has taken action on several previous nonpublic school certification waivers.

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**Summary of Key Issue(s):**

The **Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD)** requests a waiver of EC 56366.1(a). This law establishes standards for non-profit, nonsectarian schools and agencies to follow to be certified to provide special education and designated instruction services (DIS) to students with disabilities. The district requests this waiver in order to place student, **Lauren B.** at **Sunhawk Academy** located in **Saint George, Utah.**

The emotionally disturbed student was unilaterally placed in a non-California approved residential nonpublic school by her parents in January 2003. An expanded IEP team recently recommended residential NPS placement. The student is doing very well at **Sunhawk Academy**. The IEP team feels it would be detrimental to the student to transfer her to another residential NPS.

The **Saddleback Valley Unified School District** look into numerous residential facilities and feels that this placement is the proper one for this particular student.

The **Sunhawk Academy** staff are highly trained and devoted to students with emotional and family problems, substance abuse, depression, defiance and academic problems.

The Department recommends this waiver request be approved.

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Authority for the waiver: *Education Code* (EC) Section 56101

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on:

Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

Neutral

Support

Oppose

Name of bargaining unit representative: NA

Local board approval date: SELPA Director signature

Effective dates of request: July 2, 2003-August 23, 2003

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**Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate): No known fiscal impacts**

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**Background Information:**

Waiver request forms and supporting documents are attached to this summary.